AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A voice message repositioning method for a voice message system that stores voice messages for a user of the system and provides feedback to the user regarding the progress of repositioning the playback of a voice message, the repositioning method comprising the steps of:

(a) repositioning the voice message upon receipt of a start command to begin repositioning, wherein the start command is communicated from a telephone to the voice message system;

(b) providing feedback to the user via a supervisory signal during repositioning, the supervisory signal not an integral part of the voice message and being discrete from a past or future supervisory signal; and

(c) stopping the repositioning upon receipt of a stop command initiated by the user to stop the repositioning, wherein the stop command is communicated from the telephone to the voice message system.

2. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the start command to begin repositioning is provided by the user of the voice message system and includes a voice command, a digital command, or a keyed command.

3. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the stop command to stop repositioning is provided by the user of the voice message system and includes a voice command, a digital command, or a keyed command.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the supervisory signal is an aural signal.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the supervisory signal is a visual signal.

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the supervisory signal is a vibratory signal.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the supervisory signal operates at fixed intervals.

8.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the supervisory signal operates at variable intervals.

9.   (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the variable intervals are based on the length of the voice message.

10.   (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the variable intervals are based on the position in the voice message.

11.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the repositioning comprises fast-forwarding.

12.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of stopping the repositioning substantially at the end of the message and playing the message substantially preceding the end.

13.   (Original) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the steps of providing a signal that the end of the message has been reached.

14.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the repositioning comprises rewinding.

15.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising the steps of stopping the repositioning substantially at the beginning of the message and playing a message envelope before playing the message from the beginning.

16.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 15, further comprising the steps of providing a signal indicating that the beginning of the message has been reached.

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17.   (Currently amended) A voice message repositioning system that stores voice messages for a user of the system and provides feedback to the user regarding the progress of repositioning the playback of a voice message, the system comprising:

(a)   a processor; and

(b)   a memory coupled to the processor, the memory storing program code implemented by the processor for:

(i)   repositioning the voice message upon receipt of a start command to begin repositioning, wherein the system is adapted for receiving the start command from a telephone;

(ii)   providing feedback to the user via a supervisory signal during repositioning, the supervisory signal being discrete from a past or future supervisory signal; and

(iii)   stopping the repositioning upon receipt of a command by the user to stop repositioning, wherein the system is adapted for receiving the stop command from the telephone.

18.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the start command to begin repositioning is provided by the user of the voice message system and includes a voice command, a digital command, or a keyed command.

19.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the stop command to stop repositioning is provided by the user of the voice message system and includes a voice command, a digital command, or a keyed command.

20.   (Original) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the supervisory signal is an audio signal.

21.   (Original) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the supervisory signal is a visual signal.

22.   (Original) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the supervisory signal is a vibratory signal.

23.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the supervisory signal operates at fixed intervals.

24.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the supervisory signal operates at variable intervals.

25.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 24, wherein the variable intervals are based on the length of the voice message.

26.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 24, wherein the variable intervals are based on the position in the voice message.

27.   (Original) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the repositioning comprises fast-forwarding.

28.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 27, wherein the program code when executed by the processor further:

    (a)   stops the repositioning substantially at the end of the message; and

    (b)   plays the message preceding the end.

29.   (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 28, wherein the program code when executed by the processor further provides a signal indicating that the end of the message has been reached.

30.   (Original) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 17, wherein the repositioning comprises rewinding.

31.   (Original) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 30, wherein the program code when executed by the processor further:

    (a)   stops the repositioning substantially at the beginning of the message; and

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(b) plays a message envelope before playing the message from the beginning.

32. (Previously presented) The voice message repositioning system of Claim 31, wherein the program code when executed by the processor further provides a signal indicating that the beginning of the message has been reached.

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